Applicant: Shunpei Yamazaki, et al.

Serial No.: 10/727,651 Filed: December 5, 2003

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REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 19-30, 38-42, 80-83, 121 and 122 are pending, with claims 1, 2, 20 and 21 being independent. Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 20 and 21 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 2, 10, 11, 20 and 21 have been amended to address the issues raised in the Examiner's objections.

Claims 1, 20 and 21 have been rejected under section 112, second paragraph. Applicants requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection in view of the amendments to claims 1, 20 and 21. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to provide antecedent basis for the lattice plane {111}, and claims 20 and 21 have been amended to eliminate the inconsistent references to the orientation ratio of the lattice plane {101}.

Claim 21 also has been amended so as not to be a substantial duplicate of claim 20.

Claims 1-11, 19-30, 38-42, 80-83, 121 and 122 have been rejected as being anticipated by Yamazaki (JP 11-18563). The rejection indicates that the various orientation ratios and lattice plane angles recited in independent claims 1, 2, 20 and 21 would have been inherent in Yamazaki "because the process of crystallizing Yamazaki's amorphous silicon film is similar to the process disclosed in the instant application." Applicant respectfully disagrees with this conclusion, as nothing in Yamazaki indicates that Yamazaki's process would produce the recited orientation ratios and lattice plane angles. Indeed, as is well known, small changes in a semiconductor film formation process can have a large impact on the resulting semiconductor film, such that a merely "similar" process may produce dramatically different results. In view of this, applicant respectfully submits that the rejection does not adequately establish that the recited ratios and plane angles would have been inherent and, accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance.

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Please charge Deposit Account No. 06-1050 in the amount of \$120.00 for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. Hayden Reg. No. 37,640

Date: August 22, 2005

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